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(CENTRAL AFRICA)

PARIS (UPI) - FRENCH MILITARY OFFICIALS NEGOTIATED WITH FORMER CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPEROR JEAN-BEDEL BOKASSA TODAY IN AN EFFORT TO GET HIM TO LEAVE LESS THAN A DAY AFTER HE ARRIVED HOPING FOR ASYLUM AFTER HIS OVERTHROW.

OFFICIALS SAID BOKASSA AGREED TO LEAVE FOR LIBYA DURING A NIGHT OF PROTRACTED TALKS BY RADIO BETWEEN THE COMMANDER OF THE EVREUX MILITARY AIR BASE WEST OF PARIS AND THE CREW OF BOKASSA'S PRIVATE CARAVELLE JETLINER.

BUT THE TALKS CONTINUED TODAY, AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID THE DELAY IN BOKASSA'S DEPARTURE APPARENTLY STEMMED FROM THE TOPPLED RULER'S BELIEF FRANCE WOULD RELENT AND LET HIM ENTER THE COUNTRY.

BOKASSA, CALLED THE FRENCH-SPEAKING IDI AMIN OF THE BRUTALITY OF HIS 14-YEAR RULE, WAS OUSTED IN A COUP IN HIS SUB-SAHARAN NATION WHILE ON A VISIT TO LIBYA.

HIS PLANE WAS ALLOWED TO LAND IN FRANCE ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS RUNNING SHORT OF FUEL, OFFICIALS SAID, AND DIVERTED FROM PAR S TO THE MILITARY FIELD 90 MILES AWAY.

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